

**REMARKS**

**Status of the Claims**

- Claims 1-45 are pending in the present Application.
- Claims 8-19, 26-31, and 35-45 are elected for examination.
- Claims 1-7, 20-25, and 32-34 are withdrawn.

**Election of Claims**

The Office Action dated 6/13/2007 states a restriction of the claims of the current application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-7, 20-25, and 32-34, draw to methods of participating in multiparty transactions, classified in class 713, subclass 168.

Group II: Claims 8-19, 26-31, and 35-45, drawn to methods of protecting a message that will be used in a multiparty transaction, classified in class 380, subclass 279.

Applicant elects Group II (claims 8-19, 26-31, and 35-45), without traverse. The remaining non-elected claims are withdrawn from consideration. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of all non-elected claims in one or more related applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Jerome G. Schaefer/

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